

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIPOL 01195 170858Z

20

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SPC-03 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10 RSC-01

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06

SIL-01 SCEM-02 L-03 H-03 DODE-00 PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01

PM-07 DRC-01 INT-08 /173 W

----- 110849

P 170800Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0545

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG LY

SUBJ: LIBYAN PRESS COVERAGE OF OIL NATIONALIZATIONS

1. AS OF THIS WRITING THERE HAS BEEN NO LOCAL PRESS REACTION SPECIFICALLY TIED TO NOTE WHICH EMBASSY SENT TO MFA ON THE AFTERNOON OF SEPT 14. NOTE ITSELF NOT MENTIONED.
 2. LIBYAN PRESS OF WEEKEND HEADLINED "NO, AMERICA" AND THIS WAS INDICATIVE OF THEME OF COVERAGE. PAPERS CARRIED HARD-HITTING ARTICLES AND EDITORIALS WARNING THE US TO AVOID ANY ECONOMIC OR MILITARY CONFRONTATION WITH LIBYA. IT ALL BASED ON LIBYAN ASSUMPTION (AND PERHAPS GOVERNMENT BELIEF) THAT US WILL TRY TO ARRANGE "BOYCOTT" OF LIBYAN OIL OR EVEN TAKE MILITARY ACTION AGAINST LIBYA.
 3. WHAT APPEARS TO BE HAPPENING IS THAT LIBYAN PRESS IS REACTING TO AMERICAN PRESS DISCUSSION OF THE BOYCOTT IDEA, AND PLAYING IT FOR PRESTIGE REASONS. WE HAVE SOME INDICATIONS POPULAR LIBYAN CONCERN OVER PACE OF TAKE-OVERS. DEPT WILL RECALL FROM PAST REPORTING THAT MANY LIBYANS HAVE BEEN
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PAGE 02 TRIPOL 01195 170858Z

RATHER TOLERANT OF QADHAFI ON THE GROUND THAT "HE MEANS

WELL THOUGH OF COURSE INEXPERIENCE CAUSES HIM TO MAKE

SOME MISTAKES". THESE PEOPLE NOW ARE PROBABLY WORRIED THAT QADHAFI HAS MOVED TOO FAR TOO FAST. IT SEEMS TO US THAT BY OVERPLAYING OF BOYCOTT THEME AND ALLEGING THAT U.S. PLANS MILITARY ACTION, THE REGIME HAS DELIBERATELY CAST THE CURRENT OIL IMPASSE INTO QUESTION OF SURVIVAL, AND THUS HOPES TO DISCREDIT ANY WEAK-KNEED CRITICS OF CURRENT ACTIONS AGAINST THE MAJORS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, NATIONALIZATION, PETROLEUM, CONVENTIONAL WARFARE, BOYCOTTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TRIPOL01195
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: TRIPOLI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730929/aaaaauxh.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17-Jan-2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <18-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LIBYAN PRESS COVERAGE OF OIL NATIONALIZATIONS
TAGS: ENRG, LY, (QADHAFI, MU'ANNAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005